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Basic Cookie Dough Recipe

This basic cookie dough recipe can be used for delicious decorated Halloween cookies and is so easy to make. After the dough is mixed and chilled, use your imagination and decorate your cookies with M&Ms, licorice, candy, cake decoration gel and frosting. Make pumpkins, spiders, ghosts and jack-o-lantern cookies!

Recipe Ingredients

1 c. (2 sticks) butter, softened

3/4 c. granulated sugar

3/4 c. brown sugar · lightly packed

1/2 tsp. baking soda

1/4 tsp. salt 2 eggs

1 tsp. vanilla

2 1/2 c. all-purpose flour

Put the butter, both sugars, salt and the baking soda in a large mixing bowl and beat with a mixer for about 3 minutes. Blend in the eggs and vanilla extract. Reduce the mixer speed and add the flour gradually.

This cookie dough is best used when chilled so try to mix it up ahead of time to allow for a couple hours in the refrigerator. Chill between batches

Bake at 375° for 10 to 12 minutes on an un-greased cookie sheet,

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Bloody Peanuts

If you're looking for something easy and quick, you'll love this recipe. With only two ingredients, you can't go wrong. Don't skimp on the barbeque sauce. Look for a good brand, pick one of your favorites. A cheap brand will not turn out as yet? not turn out as well

Recipe Ingredients

1 can of peanuts

Up to 1/2 cup of BBQ sauce

Combine the peanuts and barbeque sauce until the peanuts are entirely coated (not too heavy.) Spread them out on a foll-lined cookie sheet.

Bake at 300° for about ten minutes. Times will vary depending on how thickly coated the peanuts are. Check frequently and remove from the oven when the peanuts appear to be covered with dried blood.

Let sit until completely cooled. Transfer to a serving bowl.

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Easy Popcorn Balls Recipe

Popcorn balls are a traditional Halloween treat. This recipe is very basic and makes some great tasting popcorn balls for your Halloween trick-or-treaters. it's easy to make colored popcorn balls by adding some food coloring or orange flavored gelatin.

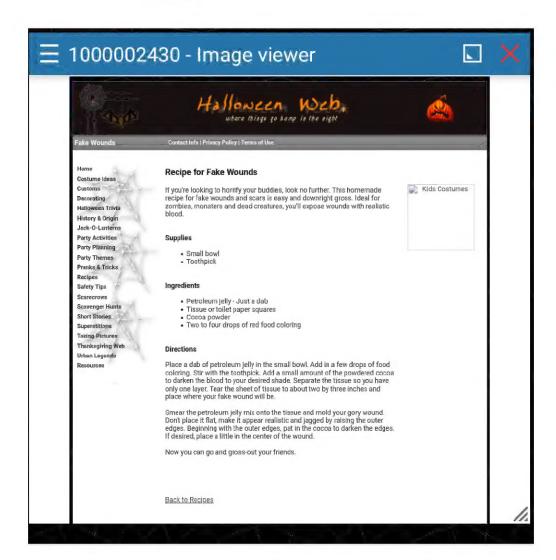
Recipe Ingredients

8 c, popped popcom 2/3 c, light corn syrup 2/3 c, granulated sugar 1/2 tsp, salt

Combine the corn syrup, sugar and salt in a large kettle and heat on medium heat while stirring until dissolved. Add the popcorn to the kettle and toss. Cook for an additional 5 minutes until mixture becomes very sticky. Remove from heat.

Shape popoorn into balls with clean hands and cool, Wrap the balls in plastic wrap and seal tightly with a twister.

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Fake Blood Recipes - Make Your Own

What's a Halloween costume party without blood for special affects? Fake blood is available in novelty and party supply stores but making it yourself is fun – and you'll see more realistic results. Mix up a batch before a party and keep the local vampires in good supply.

Here are some recipes for you to make your own realistic-tooking fake blood. Real blood is reddish brown so you may need to alter the amounts of ingredients for the desired affect. Keep in mind, fake blood is messy and some of these recipes may leave stains - so use with caution.

Homemade Fake Blood

1 c, Karo Syrup

1 Thsp Water 2 Thsp Red Food Coloring

1 tsp Yellow Food Coloring

Mix together in a mixing bowl and you're done. Try adding blue or yellow for a different shade

Chocolate Fake Blood

1/2 c. Warm Water

4 Tbsp Corn Syrup 1 Tbsp Powdered Cocoa

1 tsp Red Food Coloring

Blend the water and cocoa together and then add the rest of the ingredients, Let the concoction sit for awhile and skim the bubbles off of the top. Add a couple of drops of yellow food coloring if you're not satisfied.

Simple Fake Blood

Clear Corn Syrup Red Food Coloring Milk - Optional

However much fake blood is how much corn syrup you'll need. Pour it into a bowl and mix in some red food coloring. Add some blue if you like. Adding a small amount of milk will make the blood appear darker and thicker.

Realistic Recipe

2/3 c. Corn Syrup

1/3 c. Warm Water 5 Tbsp Corn Starch 4 tsp red food coloring

1 Tbsp Powdered Cocoa

2 drops of green or yellow food coloring

Mix the corn starch with the water in a large mixing bowl, Stir in the corn syrup. Add the food coloring slowly, checking for color.

Thanks to Andy for the following new recipes:

This is fairly new and I haven't had chance to test it properly but its looks

Gravy Granules Red Food Coloring HOT Water

The directions are EASY, all you do is make the gravy up as you would normally but if you feel like it, you can make it a bit thicker, then add the red food coloring. It's up to you how much you add but too much will stain as it will not have been diluted enough.

Cheap 'N' Easy Blood

This is good for spidering and works like a dream:

Water Red Food Coloring 1 tsp. of Coffee

Boil the water on the stove, then sieve in the flour, making sure you get ALL of the lumps out. The quantity of ingredients aren't important, it just depends on how much you want. Once you have the flour mixed nicely into the water it should look nice and thick. Next, add the red food coloring.

You will notice that it's a ghastly, bright red colour but don't worry this is why we add the coffee. It is important that when you add the coffee to make sure the mixture is hot, otherwise it wont dissolve, but up until adding the coffee can be done in a ordinary mixing jug or pan.

Palmolive Imitation Blood

A reader writes in: You can also make fake blood with Palmolive dish soap, (it doesn't matter how much you put in) it depends on how much blood you want! Add red berry powered Kool-Aid!

Halloween Props and Decorations













Frozen Hand Recipes

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Frozen Hand Recipe

Don't use regular ice cubes to keep the Halloween punch chilled, creep-out your guests with a frozen hand in the punch! There are 2 simple options to this recipe:

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Frozen Hand Recipe #1

1 rubber glove with no lining

1 qt. water

Food coloring — This can match the color of your punch, or stick out like a sore thumb (Pun intended) $\,$

1 bread twist or rubber band

Add the food coloring to the water, mix, and pour into the glove. Tie it off tightly with the twisty or rubber band. Place on a flat surface (that will catch any drainage) and freeze the glove until it's solid. Remove the glove and place in the punch before serving.

Frozen Hand Option # 2

This option is simple but it's going to match the color of your punch — because all you need to do take some actual punch and freeze it in the glove. This option is tastier than recipe #1 since the punch will not dilute when the hand melts.

Another variation of this is to simply freeze some Squirt or Mountain Dew into the glove, which adds a more realistic look to the hand. Make sure the flavor compliments the punch.

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Caramel Apples

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Homemade Caramel Apples Recipe

Halloween means tasty treats for ghosts and goblins. Traditional goodies are always a hit at Halloween parties. Make your own mouthwatering, homemade caramel apples with this easy recipe to celebrate the Halloween holiday.

Recipe Ingredients

8 medium-sized apples

2 (14 oz.) pkgs. caramels (try chocolatel) 1/4 c. water

Wash and dry the apples, Insert popsicle sticks into the stem of each apple. Set aside.

Unwrap the caramels and add them with the water in a medium sized saucepan. Heat on low while stirring until the caramel is completely melted.

Dip each apple into the caramel until the apple is completely covered, allowing the excess caramel to drip off. Scrape bottom if necessary. Place apples onto greased waxed paper and let them sit for about 15 minutes or until caramel is completely set. Store in the refrigerator.

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Easy Trail Mix Recipes

Before you set off on your next family walk or outing, try making one of these super easy trail mixes to keep your energy up.

Quick Fix Mix

2 cups mini pretzels

1 cup cheese snack crackers 1 cup honey roasted peanuts

1 cup raisins

Place all ingredients into a plastic baggie, seal, and then shake. Enjoy!

Chocolate Popcorn Mix

2 cups spoon size shredded wheat cereal

2 cups popped popcorn 1 cup dried cranberries

3 Tbsp, milk chocolate chunks

Toss cereal and popcorn into a large bowl. Place the cranberries into a small bowl. Melt the chocolate as directed on the package, and stir. Pour the chocolate over the cranberries and mix lightly. Add the chocolate cranberries to the cereal mixture, and toss lightly. Spread the mix into a single layer on a large piece of wax paper. Let it cool completely before

Fruity Nut Mix

1/2 cup sunflower seeds

1/2 cup raisins

1 cup dried banana chips 1/2 cup shredded coconut

1 cup unsalted peanuts

1 cup dried fruit bits

Place all of the ingredients into a plastic baggie, seal, and then shake. Fast, easy and yummy!

About The Author

Deborah Shelton is a mother, freelance writer, and author of the brand new book, "The Five Minute Parent: Fun & Fast Activities for You and Your Little Ones." Visit Deborah's website for more family-friendly ideas: http://www.fiveminuteparent.com.

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Apple Salad

Autumn is a wonderful time for this refreshing apple salad. It makes a perfect dessert for the holidays and is easy to transport to family gatherings and parties.

Recipe Ingredients

1 (20 oz.) can of crushed pineapple, un-drained 2/3 c. sugar 1 (3 oz.) pkg. lemon Jello

1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened 1 c. diced, unpeeled apples 1 c. diced celery

1/2 c. chopped nuts 1 c. whipped topping

Combine the sugar and pineapple in a saucepan. Bring to boil and boil for three minutes. Stir in the Jello until dissolved. Add the cream cheese and stir until thoroughly combined. Cool. Fold in apples, celery, chopped nuts, and whipped topping.

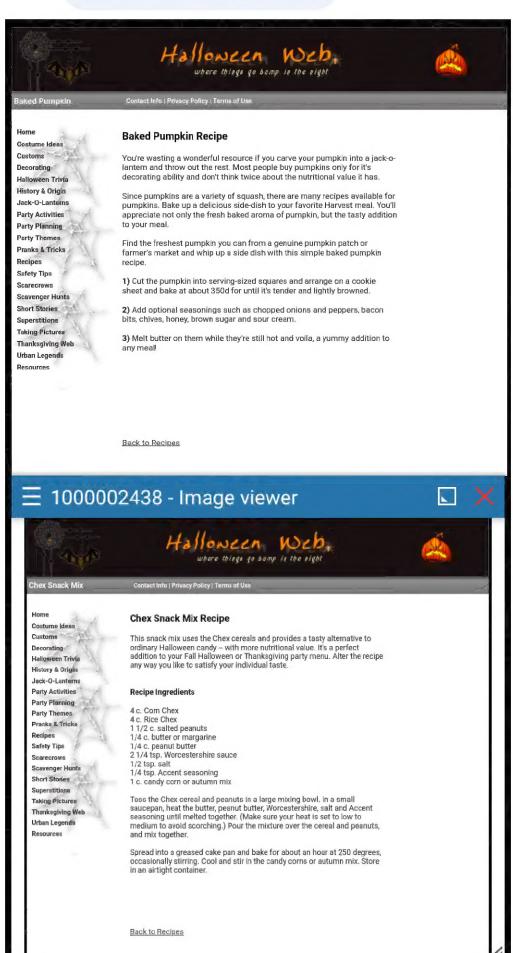
Pour into a 9" square baking dish. Chill in fridge until firm.

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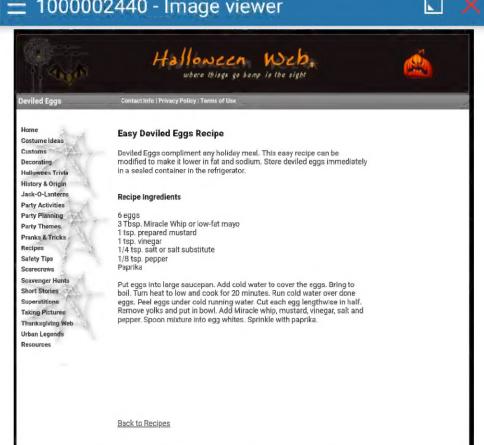














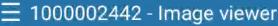


















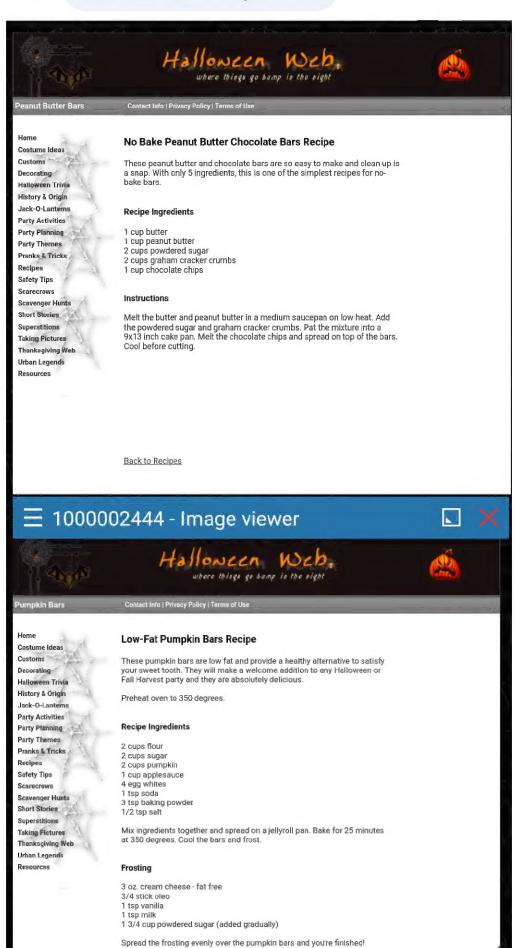
























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it's roasting, frequently baste the turkey with the butter and it's own natural juices. Remove the aluminum foil about 1 hour before the turkey is finished roasting. The average roasting time for a 16 lb turkey is up to 5 hours, but it's not done until your meal thermometer reads about 180 degrees.

When your turkey is done, remove the stuffing and let it stand for about 15 minutes to ease the carving process. Transfer the turkey to the serving platter and begin carving.

Additional Bird Roasting Tips

- · Keep your hands clean, washing them throughout the process
- If you're concerned about the turkey being dry, have a can of turkey stock or broth on hand and baste the turkey with it while it's cooking.
- Consider baking the stuffing in a separate pan. The turkey will roast quicker and this insures the stuffing is not contaminated.
- . Use the drippings for savory turkey gravy, Put the roasting pan right on the stovetop (usually over two burners) and make your gravy right

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